

Sales Tax -FY 12-13 Update

Sales tax revenues for February 2013 (April report) were \$195,122 (28%) less than January 2013 (March report). Further, February 2013 sales tax revenues are \$6,065 (1%) lower than the same revenues in February 2012.

On a more positive note, sales tax revenues for the first eight (8) months of FY 12-13 are still up \$200,330 (4.5%) as compared to FY 11-12.

911 Emergency Radio Project Update

County staff met with officials from Motorola late last week to review the initial cost estimates for the emergency radio infrastructure and radios (subscriber units) required for the radio system upgrade.

The quote for the required equipment and radios is \$7.8 million. Staff had projected the capital cost to range from \$8.25 to \$8.8 million in a presentation to the Board on February 22.

The quote for the equipment is \$5.4 million and the radio quote is \$2.4 million.

This cost does not include any offset for potential grants or used radio discounts (subscriber units) from the City of Charlotte. The used radio discounts (approximately 200 units) and grants will help reduce the overall capital cost.

In addition to the capital cost, the County will be responsible for system maintenance and annual membership/upgrade assurance (if the County joins UASI). The County, VFDs and municipalities will also be responsible for radio maintenance expenses.

The price quote will be valid through mid-September 2013. Motorola will also provide several lease purchase options that will enable the County to move forward with the project without jeopardizing any potential grant opportunities.

Motorola and UASI are expected to deliver a full presentation of their price quotes later this month. Staff will include this information for discussion during the annual budget development process.

SCUSA Performance Awards

Stanly County's public transportation system (SCUSA) earned two (2) performance awards this past week at the annual NC Public Transportation Association conference.

As a result of SCUSA's safe driving record, the system earned a safety award. The safety award is based on a formula that evaluates traffic accidents, passenger incidents, passenger injuries and safety offenses per passenger trip.

Additionally, SCUSA earned the Secretary's Award for its commitment to training excellence. SCUSA has received statewide recognition for the annual emergency simulation exercises it conducts in conjunction with Emergency Management.

Manufacturing and Education Forum

The Institute for Emerging Issues (IEI) at NC State is partnering with the NC Community College System and the NCACC to convene statewide community forums to discuss strategies to better align the workforce development needs of the manufacturing sector with the secondary and post-secondary education system.

The Stanly County EDC and Cooperative Extension are taking the lead to organize the community forum in Stanly County. The forum will be held the evening of May 13 at Stanly Regional Medical Center.

The forum will be facilitated by Cooperative Extension staff and include presentations that highlight current educational data and manufacturing skill requirements. Local elected officials, school board members, school personnel, community college officials, chamber of commerce representatives and manufacturing business leaders will all be invited to participate in the forum.

Upcoming Meetings & Events

Regular Board Meeting

Monday, April 15 7:00 PM Commons Meeting Room

Annual Ag Day Tour

Thursday, April 25 12:00 PM Agri-Civic Center

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